

REMARKS

The following is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated August 20, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 20, 2008. The Examiner rejects claims 1-66 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Goldberg (U.S. 2004/0013112).

Rejections under §102(e)

The claims as now amended rely on the cross-linking provided by an address resolution table cross-linked provided by an address resolution table cross-linked with a state table that is indexed with an ART index to enable quick and efficient routing or filtering of packets through a network interface. Detailed examples of the claim structures are provided at paragraphs [0045]-[0054] of the present application, and the added claim language is consistent with the language found in these paragraphs. These recited features are not taught or suggested in Goldberg.

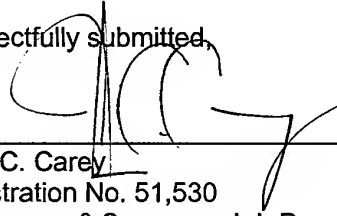
As now clearly recited in the claims, rather than having a large state table or other data structure, such as that used in Goldberg, linked state tables are used in the claim approach to conserve memory. As a consequence, the claimed approach is more efficient than prior art techniques that utilize a single large table. The tables are cross-linked so that the necessary routing information can be stored in only one of the tables. By creating and storing table indexes, the different table entries are cross-linked to enable these efficiencies. In contrast, Goldberg creates three separate, non-linked tables. There is no teaching or suggestion in the reference of cross-linking the three tables. The Examiner makes a general citation to Tables 2 and 3 found at Goldberg column 8, and a further table found at paragraph [0048] of the reference in his argument. Again, however, there is no teaching, suggestion or inherent result that would provide the cross-linking and indexing that are now clearly set forth in each one of the independent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, Applicants believe that they have overcome all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed August 20, 2008, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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